

REMARKS

In the action: an election/restriction requirement was made; objection to the drawings was made; claims 1-3, 5,6, 10, 12, 13, 14, 26, 27 and 29 were rejected as anticipated by Keller; claims 4 and 11 were rejected as obvious in view of Keller and Sothwell et al.; claims 9 and 30 were rejected as obvious in view of Keller and Sato et al; claims 7, 8, 15-17 and 28 were objected to but identified as containing allowable subject matter; and claims 18-25 were allowed.

Applicant notes that in a Preliminary Amendment filed with the application a “new” claim 26 was added in view of the claim numbering error in the original specification. It appears from the Examiner’s response that the Preliminary Amendment was not entered in the case, and the undersigned response assumes that in fact the Preliminary Amendment has not been entered.

Applicant confirms the election of claims 1-30 without traverse. Claim 31 is canceled above without prejudice.

Claims 9 and 30, referencing a printer cassette are canceled above without prejudice. Applicants in fact submit that the rejection is improper, but are canceling claims 9 and 30 in order to expedite the case. Applicants further note that each independent claim of the present application is written broadly enough to encompass a printing apparatus including a removable cassette (claims 1, 10 and 18) or a print media compartment (claim 26) in which the compartment is within a printer cassette.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of originally dependent claim 7 and therefore claim 1 should be allowable per the indications in the action. Dependent claims 2-6 and 8 are likewise allowable.

Claim 26 has been amended to expressly require all three of features (a), (b) and (c). Based upon the indications of allowability for original claim 28, claim 26 should therefore be allowable. Dependent claim 29 is likewise allowable. The drawing objection based upon claim 29 is traversed because Figs. 1- 3 do in fact show a printing device that includes the claimed print media compartment.

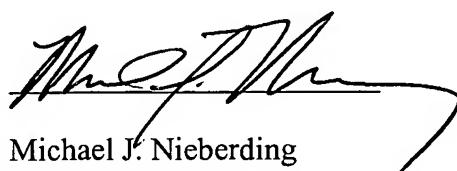
With respect to claim 10, applicants disagree with the examiner’s conclusion that Keller shows recessed guide regions that are sized to “correspond to” the widths of label stock. This language (as used in original claim 10 or any other claim of the application) clearly distinguishes

over Keller. Nonetheless, applicants have amended claim 10 above in order to further clarify the distinction. Specifically, claim 10 has been amended above to clarify that the label stock guide includes “a first recessed guide region with edges spaced apart by a distance to fit a first label stock width therein and a second recessed guide region with edges spaced apart by a distance to fit a second label stock width therein.” In comparison, the guide shown in Keller at Figs. 15 and 16 includes a ribbed surface, but the ribs are not spaced so as to result in recessed guide regions with side edges spaced apart by a distance that fits the label stock width in the recessed regions. Specifically, the regions between adjacent ribs of the Keller guide have a spacing smaller than the claimed spacing because the label stock is in fact intended to ride over the ribs, not within the spacing between the ribs. For this reason, amended claim 10 is patentably distinguishable over Keller. Dependent claims 11-17 are allowable for at least the same reason.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment or cancellation of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of any claim prior to its amendment or of any claim cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Michael J. Nieberding
Reg. No. 39,316

THOMPSON HINE LLP
2000 Courthouse Plaza NE
Dayton, Ohio 45402-1758
Telephone (937) 443-6892
Facsimile: (937) 443-6635

529856